



# Arizona Department of Public Safety

**- For Immediate Release -**  
Tuesday, December 2, 2008

## Violent Criminal Apprehension Team arrests **485** fugitives since late May of 2008

*Seven fugitives arrested last week and **603** felony warrants cleared overall*

On May 12, 2008, the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) was directed to develop a multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional statewide plan to identify and arrest individuals with outstanding felony warrants. This statewide effort is known as the Violent Criminal Apprehension Team (VCAT). So far, VCAT efforts have resulted in the arrests of **485** fugitives, including **seven** last week. A total of **603** felony warrants have been cleared. Some of those arrested last week include:

**Ronald J. Lewis, 43**, was arrested for a felony warrant out of the *Maricopa County* Superior Court for probation violation on an aggravated assault charge in the city of Scottsdale.

**Luis S. Hernandez, 26**, was arrested for a felony warrant out of *Pima County* Superior Court for failure to appear on an attempted transportation of marijuana charge on the Gila River Indian Reservation. In addition, Hernandez had a misdemeanor warrant out of the *South Mountain Justice Court* in Phoenix for failure to appear on shoplifting charges.

**Francisco Gomez, 23**, was arrested for two felony warrants out of the *Maricopa County* Superior Court for failure to appear on forgery charges and a probation violation on possession of a forgery device charge in the city of Phoenix.

“Our VCAT Officers are working hard every day to locate fugitives. Thanks to the cooperation of numerous law enforcement agencies, we are taking these folks off the street which helps make communities safer,” said Roger Vanderpool, director of the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

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